

"Though they be melancholike they have their Games, especially the children verie divers and pleasant, in the which they counterfeit manie kinds of Birds, and with so great feast and order as may be. And the children are joyfull and given to play, and they play with such quietnesse and friendship, that among them is no bad name heard, or any scurrilitie, or calling any nickname one to anothers Father or Mother; and seldome doe they disagree when they play, nor disorder themselves for any thing, and verie seldome doe they strike or fight one with another. The Fathers doe teach them from their cradles to dance and sing, and their dancings are not sundrie changes, but a continuall stamping with the feet standing[428] still, or going round about, or stirring their bodie or their head, and they doe it all by such compasse, and pleasantnesse as can be desired, at the sound of a Timbrell made after the fashion of those which the children use in Spaine with manie smal stones within or certaine seeds whereof they make also verie good beads: and so they sing dancing altogether, for they doe not one thing without the other, in such compasse and order that sometime an 100 men dancing and singing together in a row one behind the other doe end all at one stroke, as if they were altogether in one place. The singers aswell men as women are much esteemed among them, in so much that if they take an enemie a good singer, and an Inventaer of Verses, they therefore spare his life, and doe not eate him nor his children. The women doe dance together with the men, and make many gambolls and gestures with their armes

9: Cardim--427-428
116, 524, 533, 535

(1583-1601) 1906

Tupinamba-2

and bodies, especially when they dance alone. They keepe among themselves differencies of voices in their Consort: and ordinarily the women doe sing the Treble, Counter, and Tenours."

There is nothing that fathers love more than their children and if one is good to the latter, he may be sure that he has made friends of the fathers. The mothers carry the babies in a piece of netting called typoia (baby sling). Generally they carry them on their backs or astride on their hips. They take them wherever they go and they even work with the children on their backs on calm, sunny or rainy days. They never punish the children. There are parents who in their life time have never chastised their children, so much do they love them. Even small children are very obedient to their parents and are nice and pleasant. They have a great many games of their own which they play with more gaiety and joy than the Portuguese children. In these games they imitate birds, serpents, and other animals and these are graceful and amusing games. There are no quarrels, no complaints or disputes among them and you do not hear jests, bad or dishonest words.